

EDUCATION SPECIALIST INSTRUCTION CREDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHERS PREPARED IN CALIFORNIA

The Education Specialist Instruction Credential authorizes the holder to teach in the area of specialization listed on the credential in the following settings: special day classes, special schools, home/hospital settings, correctional facilities, nonpublic schools and agencies, and resource rooms.

Education Specialist Areas of Specialization:

- **Mild/Moderate Disabilities (M/M)** -- includes specific learning disabilities, mild to moderate mental retardation, attention deficit and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, and serious emotional disturbance and authorizes serving individuals in kindergarten, grades one through twelve, and in classes organized primarily for adults through age 22.
- **Moderate/Severe Disabilities (M/S)** -- includes autism, deaf-blindness, moderate to severe mental retardation, multiple disabilities, and serious emotional disturbance and authorizes serving individuals in kindergarten, grades one through twelve, and in classes organized primarily for adults through age 22.
- **Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)** -- includes deafness, hearing impairment, and deaf-blindness and authorizes serving individuals ages birth through 22.
- **Visual Impairments (VI)** -- includes blindness, visual impairment, and deaf-blindness and authorizes serving individuals ages birth through 22.
- **Physical and Health Impairments (PHI)** -- includes orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, multiple disabilities, and traumatic brain injury and authorizes serving individuals ages birth through 22.
- **Early Childhood Special Education - (ECSE)** -- includes the mild/moderate and moderate/severe disabilities listed above and authorizes serving children ages birth to prekindergarten only*.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRELIMINARY LEVEL I CREDENTIAL:

1. **Baccalaureate or higher degree** from a regionally accredited institution of postsecondary education.
2. **Completion of a Commission-accredited Education Specialist Credential program in an education specialist category** resulting in formal recommendation by the college or university through which program requirements are completed. Institutions with a Commission-accredited education specialist program are listed on this leaflet. Contact the institution for specific program requirements.
3. **Completion of the Developing English Language Skills, including Reading requirement** by successful completion of a comprehensive reading instruction course that includes the systematic study of phonemic awareness, phonics, and decoding; literature, language and comprehension; and diagnostic and early intervention techniques.
4. **Passage of RICA for Education Specialist (Effective 1-1-00).**
Applicants, who complete their teacher preparation on or after January 1, 2000, are required to pass the RICA. Applicants who hold a valid California teaching credential other than internship credentials, internship certificates and emergency permits are exempt from this requirement**. Contact the Commission office for *The Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA): Why, What, When and Who?* for more information regarding this requirement.
5. **Verification of subject matter competence** by either passing the Multiple Subjects Assessment for Teachers (MSAT) or by passing the required subject matter examination(s) for a single subject area (as specified in leaflet CL-674S) **OR** by completing a Commission-approved subject matter program of course work or its equivalent and obtaining certification of completion of the program from the authorized person in the education department of a California college or university with an approved program in the subject area. Applicants may be required to pass the MSAT based upon specification of this requirement in their university's professional preparation program***.

* An Early Childhood Special Education Certificate is also available to individuals who already hold a clear, professional clear or life special education credential and who complete a certificate program through a Commission-approved college or university. Contact an institution with an approved Early Childhood Special Education Credential program (see table on reverse) for more information on Certificate programs and requirements.

** Verification of RICA is **not required** for the area of Early Childhood Special Education, nor is it required of individuals who hold a valid California clear, life or professional clear teaching credential based upon possession of a bachelor's degree and completion of a professional preparation program, including student teaching.

*** Verification of Subject Matter Competence is **not required** for the area of Early Childhood Special Education, nor is it required of individuals who hold a valid California clear, life or professional clear teaching credential based upon possession of a bachelor's degree and completion of a professional preparation program, including student teaching.

6. **Passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST).** To pass CBEST one must obtain a minimum scaled score of 41 in each of the three sections (reading, mathematics, and writing). However, a section score as low as 37 is acceptable if the total scaled score is at least 123. See the CBEST leaflet (CL-667) for more details.
7. Passage of a course (at least two semester units) in the provisions and principles of the **United States Constitution** or passage of an examination in the subject given by a regionally accredited community college, college, or university.
8. An **offer of employment** from a California school district, non-public school or agency, or county office of education, verified by submission of form CL-777.1 with the application for the credential. If the applicant has no offer of employment, a Certificate of Eligibility may be issued verifying completion of the Level I requirements.

Period of Validity: The Preliminary Education Specialist Instruction Credential is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL CLEAR LEVEL II CREDENTIAL:

9. Completion of an **individualized induction plan** designed by the specialist in collaboration with the specialist's employing agency and a California college or university with a Commission-accredited education specialist program in the area of specialization listed on the Preliminary Level I credential. This plan will include academic requirements applicable to all Level II candidates as well as individualized studies and consultations focusing on the needs and employment assignment of the specific candidate. This plan may contain up to 25% non-university based activities, if approved by the college or university administering the program.
10. Completion of a course in **Health Education**, including, but not limited to, nutrition, the physiological and sociological effects of abuse of alcohol, narcotics, and drugs, and the use of tobacco. This requirement must include verification of training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) which covers infant and child to adult CPR skills. CPR certification must be completed while the applicant is in a teacher preparation program or is teaching on a valid credential based on a teacher education program.
11. Completion of a course in **Computer Education**, including instruction in general and specialized skills in the use of computers in educational settings.
12. Verification of a minimum of two years of successful experience in a public school (or private school with equivalent status) while holding the Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Instruction Credential, verified by the employing agency.
13. **Formal Recommendation** for the credential by the college or university through which the individualized induction plan was completed.

Period of Validity: The Professional Clear Education Specialist Instruction Credential will expire the same date as any other professional clear credential held. If no other professional clear credentials are held, this credential will expire five years from the date of issuance.

REQUIREMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF THE PROFESSIONAL CLEAR CREDENTIAL:

The professional clear credential must be renewed every five years. Renewal requirements include completion of an individualized program of professional growth resulting in verification of at least 150 hours of professional growth activities, and verification of at least 90 days of successful service in a position in education. An application and fee are also required for renewal of the document.

**COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN CALIFORNIA
WITH ACCREDITED EDUCATION SPECIALIST PROGRAMS AS OF 12-1-99**

CSU System	IN	L I	L II	M/M	M/S	DHH	PHI	VI	ECSE
CSPU Pomona	X*	X	X	X	X				
CPSU San Luis Obispo		X		X	X				
CSU Bakersfield		X		X	X				
CSU Chico	X**	X	X	X	X				X
CSU Dominguez Hills	X*	X	X	X	X				X
CSU Fresno	X*	X	X	X	X	X			
CSU Fullerton	X**	X	X	X	X				X
CSU Hayward		X		X	X				
CSU Long Beach	X*	X	X	X	X				
CSU Los Angeles	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
CSU Northridge	X*	X	X	X	X	X			X
CSU Sacramento	X*	X	X	X	X				X
CSU San Bernardino	X**	X	X	X	X				
CSU San Marcos	X*	X		X*	X				
CSU Stanislaus		X	X	X	X				
Humboldt State University		X		X					
San Diego State University	X*	X	X	X	X	X*	X*		X
San Francisco State University		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X ¹
San Jose State University		X		X	X	X			X
Sonoma State University		X	X	X	X				

UC System

UC Riverside	X*	X	X	X	X				
UC San Diego		X				X			

Private/Independent Institutions

Azusa Pacific University		X		X					
California Baptist University		X		X					
California Lutheran University	X*	X	X	X	X				
Chapman University		X		X	X				
Fresno Pacific University	X*	X		X	X		X		
Holy Names College		X		X					
Loyola-Marymount University		X		X					
Mills College		X							X
Mount St. Mary's		X		X					
National University		X		X	X				
Pacific Oaks College		X		X	X				X
St. Mary's College		X		X	X				
Santa Clara University	X**	X	X	X					X
University of the Pacific	X*	X		X	X				
University of San Francisco	X**	X	X	X					
University of Southern Calif.		X	X			X			

KEY to accredited Education Specialist Instruction Credential programs:

ECSE = Early Childhood Special Education: ¹ = Level II program for ECSE only; ² = ECSE Certificate only

IN = Internship: * = Internship leads to Level I credential; ** = Internship leads to Level II credential

L I = Preliminary Level I Education Specialist

L II = Professional Clear Level II Education Specialist

* = No internship

* = LI only

M/M = Mild/Moderate Disabilities

PHI = Physical and Health Impairments

M/S = Moderate/Severe Disabilities

VI = Visual Impairments

DHH = Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

ECSE = Early Childhood Special Education